

Iron County Register

BY ELI D. AKE.

IRONTON, MISSOURI.

The Chinese indemnity to Japan is to be paid in silver in five yearly installments.

ACTING SECRETARY HAMLIN decided, on the 18th, that the sale of stamp albums containing fac-simile stamps is illegal.

THE Paris Figaro of the 15th publishes a report, that Dr. Naessens, the Norwegian Arctic explorer, has found the North pole, and that it is situated on a chain of mountains.

THE Japanese legation at Washington was, on the 15th, officially notified from the foreign office at Tokio that a treaty of peace between China and Japan had been signed at Shimonoseki on the 17th.

THE colored people of the District of Columbia celebrated the anniversary of the abolition of involuntary servitude in the south, on the 16th, by a street parade and public exercises in Washington.

THE fifth international convention of the Young Women's Christian Association of the United States and British provinces, opened in Pittsburgh, Pa., on the 15th, about 250 delegates being in attendance.

THE London Globe, on the 16th, asserted that Great Britain would refuse to accept the answer of the Nicaraguan government to the British ultimatum, and would take immediate steps to enforce her demands.

THE assembly concurrent resolution submitting to a vote of the people a proposed constitutional amendment providing for woman suffrage was passed by the New York senate on the 15th—yeas, 20; nays, 1.

MINISTER YANG YU, the Chinese representative in the United States, received official advice from Shimonoseki, Japan, on the 16th, informing him that the proposed peace between China and Japan had been signed.

INTERVIEWED in Chicago, on the 15th, Vice-President Stevenson refused to talk on political matters, and would not define his position on the silver issue, or answer general questions with regard to the white metal as a political factor in 1896.

MRS. MARY BROWN, a monogamous pensioner, died, on the 16th, at her home 5 miles from Knoxville, Tenn. She was the widow of Joe Brown, a soldier in the revolutionary war, and was born in 1804. Her husband died fifty-one years ago.

DUKE ALBERT, heir apparent to the duchy of Wurttemberg, was seriously injured, on the 16th, by falling head foremost from his horse. He is suffering from concussion of the brain. The physicians, however, do not believe that his life is in danger.

UNITED STATES secret service agents arrested C. O. Jones, a newspaper artist of Chicago, on the 16th, for complicity in counterfeiting two-cent stamps. Another man was also taken into custody at the same time, but his identity was not revealed.

DISPATCHES from Havana to the Spanish government, on the 16th, stated that the rebellion in Cuba was spreading, but the insurgents are badly armed and equipped. If the uprising spreads further Gen. Martinez Campos will ask for reinforcements.

HAVANA hospitals are overcrowded with wounded men who are arriving from the interior at the rate of twenty-five a day. The dead are buried at night to avoid comment. On the 16th there were about 500 in the hospitals, 75 per cent. of whom it was thought would die.

It was rumored in Findlay, O., on the 15th, that C. C. Harris had sold all his oil interests to the Standard Oil Co. for \$500,000. Harris refused to deny or affirm the report. He was the heaviest producer in the Ohio fields, and controlled a vast amount of good territory.

ONE HUNDRED employees of the Cleveland (O.) Ship Building Co. went out on strike on the 15th. The company proposed to pay \$2 a day, and new men \$3.25 per day. The strikers were employed in the boiler-making department.

On the 16th Secretary Gresham, through Ambassador Bayard, informed Great Britain that this country will not permit, without protest, the bombardment of Greytown, and that the landing of English troops on Nicaragua soil will be viewed as an act inimical to American interests.

The treasury department has discontinued the collection of statistics regarding the production of tin and terne plates. The importations of foreign tin plate will be collected only in statistics regarding imports, as under the new tariff it is not deemed necessary to collect further information.

A DISPATCH from Shanghai, on the 16th, said that Li Hung Chang's son-in-law had telegraphed from Shimonoseki that a peace convention had been signed, on the 15th, by plenipotentiaries of China and Japan. Among the new terms mentioned is an offensive and defensive alliance between the two powers.

The balance sheet of the Distilling and Cattle Feeding Co., prepared by experts employed by Receiver McKim, was filed with Judge Showalter in the United States circuit court in Chicago on the 16th. By this report it appears that during the ascendancy of the Greenback faction the enormous sum of \$1,139,443 disappeared from the treasury of the company and remains totally unaccounted for.

The stipulation in the treaty of peace between China and Japan that the Chinese who had been captured by the Japanese and others who sold supplies to the Japanese troops in their march through Manchuria and Shantung shall not be punished by the Chinese authorities, was inspired by humane considerations. It is the custom of China to behead such of her soldiers as fall into the hands of the enemy and are afterwards returned to their own country.

NEWS AND NOTES.

A Summary of Important Events.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

While Street Superintendent John W. Deaver was grading on Market street in Havre De Grace, Md., recently, he unearthed a portion of what was known during the war of 1812 as the "Old Millhoof" house, which was burned by the British on May 14, 1814. Among the relics he found a cannon ball weighing eight pounds, besides the charred remains of some of the timbers and masonry work, which was in a fair state of preservation.

A DISPATCH from Berlin says that a singular rumor is current in that city to the effect that Field Marshal Count Yamagata, the Japanese minister of war, is long-winded. Archduke John of Austria, who went abroad some years ago under the name of John Orth.

While the Chilean minister's family was at the theater in Washington, on the night of the 15th, Mme. Gana's room was entered, and diamonds and pearls of the worth \$5,000 to \$6,000 and \$120 in money were stolen. Jose Brauer, the butler, was missing, and the police were promptly notified.

As a result of the advance in the price of oil between 400 and 500 new wells had been started in the Indiana field in Ellettsville, Wills, Adams, Jay and Randolph counties, up to the 16th.

On the morning of the 15th the large livery barn of John G. Wilson at Tallapoosa, La. T., was discovered to be on fire, and, before flames could be checked eighteen business houses of various kinds, four fine residences and several offices were threatened. The city is without waterworks or a fire company, and the fire was far-reaching in its destructive work, owing to a brisk southeast wind.

THE Vanderbilt-Iselin-Morgan syndicate, which has undertaken to defend the America's cup, has decided to name the new yacht, now building at Bristol the "Defender."

OWING to a combination of untoward circumstances, the absence of the Marine band, a bleak day, turf damp from recent and frequent showers, the annual children's festival, known as the Easter egg-rolling, in the White House grounds at Washington, on the 15th, was not the usual success.

THE much-dreaded army worm has made its appearance in Logan and many surrounding counties of Kentucky. There are millions of them, and they are making a clean sweep of everything green that lies in their way.

THE new American loan opened in London, on the 16th, at 12 1/4 and closed unchanged.

As the result of the bursting of a water main the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., suffered a practical water famine on the 16th.

THE Ontario legislature was prorogued, on the 16th, with the usual ceremonies. The lieutenant governor in his closing address referred to the electric railway act, and said it would not doubt encourage the construction of a system of light railways and thus furnish cheap transportation for the growing demands of the agricultural and internal commerce of the country.

ARTHUR, son of President L. C. Clark Seelye, of Smith college, at Northampton, Mass., a Harvard post-graduate student, was found dead on the rocks at the foot of a steep bluff on the south end of Mount Tom on the 17th. The cause of death was ascertained to be drowning. He had started out two days before to explore the mountain.

MRS. MARY VANCE, aged 74, who during the war was an assistant nurse to Miss Dorothy Lynde Dix, sister to Gen. Dix, was reported, on the 17th, to be dying, a dependent at the home of her son, Robert Williams, her niece in Pittsburgh, Pa. She was one of the most noted nurses in the Union service.

THE St. Petersburg correspondent of the Frankfurter Zeitung telegraphed, on the 17th, that the French and Russian governments were about to convolve a meeting of the powers for the purpose of revising the terms of peace agreed upon by the Chinese and Japanese representatives.

At the meeting of the stockholders of the Distilling and Cattle Feeding Co., held in Peoria, Ill., on the 17th, J. C. Harris was deposed from the presidency and expelled from the directory. He refused to resign, and when deposed threatened to take the matter into the courts.

THE Cunard liners Campania and Lucania have been ordered to be held at the disposal of the British admiralty. In the event of war they will be equipped with five-inch breech-loading guns and Nordenfeld machine guns.

LAKE shipments from Chicago to the seaboard began on the 15th, two steamers leaving for Buffalo with grain.

DISPATCHES from places in Bagot, Stanstead, Shefford and other counties east of Montreal, Can., state that a severe snow storm was felt about 11:30 a. m. on the 17th. No damage was reported.

NOTICES were posted in the mills in New Bedford, Mass., on the 17th, of a restoration of the former schedule of wages, following the action of the Mill Bldg. Manufacturers.

The bill reorganizing the board of public education in the city of New York, known as the "Compromise bill," passed the assembly at Albany, on the 17th, by a vote of 77 to 37.

ANDREW JOHNSTON, colored, was carried under by an alligator and lost his life at Green Cove Springs, Fla., on the 18th, while endeavoring to recover a gentleman's hat which had blown overboard.

Mrs. PRESTON, the director of the mint, has ordered the \$55,000 in gold bullion and 150,000 ounces of silver now at the United States mint at Carson, Nev., shipped to the mint at San Francisco. The inference is that the Carson mint will soon be dismantled and its machinery shipped to Denver for use in the new coinage mint to be established there.

ARNOON on the 18th President Diaz of Mexico, in the presence of full cabinet, diplomatic corps and a large concourse of military and civil personages, received Matthew W. Ransom, the new American minister. The customary speeches were exchanged.

A DISPATCH received from Tokio, on the 18th, says that, in addition to the places mentioned in previous dispatches, the Japanese are to retain possession of Wei-Hai-Wei, as a guarantee of the payment of the war indemnity.

WALTER S. HAYS, a State league baseball player, was stabbed and killed at Bloomington, Pa., on the night of the 17th, by Casper Thomas, 79 years old. Hays threatened to murder the old man, whereupon the latter turned upon his would-be slayer and killed him instantly.

JAMES BROOKS, aged 70, convicted of murder in the first degree in New York city in the early 60s, but whose death sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life by Gov. Seymour, died in the Auburn prison on the 18th.

A LARGE barn owned by James Graham, 3 miles north of Madison, Ind., was burned at midnight of the 18th. Two valuable horses, twelve head of cattle, twenty tons of hay and a lot of agricultural implements were consumed. Loss, \$10,000; insurance, \$1,300.

LENA NEAL, the 14-year-old daughter of J. F. Neal, of Church Grove, Tenn., was bitten by a cat recently, and, on the 18th developed a violent symptom of hydrophobia. The cat had been bitten by a rabid dog.

It was stated, on the 19th, on seemingly good authority, that the masonic orders in Indiana are to take an important step in the promotion of temperance by making the use of intoxicants at public receptions a violation of the laws of the order, and punishable by severe penalties.

THE British government has offered to Umra Kahn an asylum in India for himself, his family and his suite on condition of absolute surrender. It has also guaranteed that the tribesmen and their villages shall be spared if they offer no further opposition.

PATRIOTS' day, the anniversary of the battle of Lexington, was generally observed in Massachusetts, on the 19th, although not in so elaborate a manner as last year, when the holiday was legally commemorated for the first time.

THE National Academy of Sciences concluded its four days' session in Washington, on the 19th, after deciding to hold its next meeting in Philadelphia, October 29, 1895. A number of papers on scientific subjects were read.

FAULTS in the United States during the week ended the 19th, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co., were 241, against 219 for the corresponding week last year. For Canada the failures numbered 34, against 45 last year.

MANY deaths continue to be reported in Macao, the Portuguese settlement in China, at the mouth of the Canton river, as the result of the bubonic plague which made its appearance there a short time ago.

A DISPATCH from Seoul, on the 19th, said that a plot had been discovered to dethrone the king of Korea in favor of his nephew, Li Shun Yon. The conspirators, including Li Shun Yon, were promptly arrested.

A DISPATCH received at the state department, on the 19th, from Consul Brice at Matanzas, Cuba, stated that the two American citizens, Justo Genere and Jose M. Caraballo, arrested at that place, April 6, were released from custody on the 9th inst.

THE students of the Missouri state university have organized a glee club, composed of thirty members, which will soon start on an extensive tour through Missouri and the adjoining states.

WAR ON TOBACCO CHEWERS. One of the most prominent street railway presidents in St. Louis has declared war on tobacco chewers. He calls them hogs, and says they can not expectorate and ride in his cars.

SEWERS OF ST. LOUIS. There are about 66 1/2 miles of sewers in the city of St. Louis, not including private sewers. There were about 15 miles of district sewers constructed last year.

HANGED HIMSELF. John T. Wolf, a cigar-maker, aged 42, who resided at 3150 Iowa avenue, St. Louis, hanged himself with a clothes line. He was found by his wife.

COLLEGE PRESIDENT CHOSEN. Rev. George W. Ayres, recently of Washington college, Tennessee, has been chosen president of the Presbyterian college located at Independence.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Missouri Crop Prospects. COLUMBIA, April 17.—The weekly weather-report bulletin of the Missouri state board of agriculture, issued yesterday, says:

The conditions were unusually favorable for the advancement of farm work, and plowing for corn has progressed rapidly, with the soil in excellent condition. Planting has commenced in the northern part of the state, and is well under way in the central and southern counties. In many of the central and most of the northwestern counties the continued dry weather has seriously retarded the growth of grasses and small grains, but in other sections they are coming on finely, and stock is being put on pastures. Flax is about all sown in the southwestern counties, and is coming up well. Peaches, pears, plums, cherries and apricots are in full bloom, except in the extreme northern districts, and the prospect for fruit of all kinds (peaches, in some localities, excepted) continues good. Many correspondents report that stocks were not seriously injured, as at first supposed. Chinch bugs are making their appearance in a number of counties.

Missouri G. A. R. The state encampment of the G. A. R. was held at Macon, and was well attended.

Following officers were elected: Louis Bencke, St. Louis, department commander; J. L. Briggs, Joplin, senior vice-commander; J. E. Tremble, St. Louis, junior vice-commander; J. Nepper, Kahoka, medical director. The department commander appointed W. C. Calland, Springfield, chairman, and J. B. Paschal, St. Louis, assistant at the time of his failure, nor had it been since 1890. In that year the bank was reorganized, and at the same time its capital was increased from \$100,000 to \$250,000. The stockholders claim that had the proper authorities at the national capital given the case the investigation that it demanded, reorganization and the increase of the capital stock would have been impossible.

Refuse to Pay the Assessment. Says a dispatch sent from Sedalia: Receiver W. A. Latimer has been officially notified that he would not be able to collect the 2 per cent. assessment against the stockholders of the First National bank of Sedalia by a lawsuit. The shareholders set up the claim that the bank was not a legally chartered bank at the time of its failure, nor had it been since 1890. In that year the bank was reorganized, and at the same time its capital was increased from \$100,000 to \$250,000. The stockholders claim that had the proper authorities at the national capital given the case the investigation that it demanded, reorganization and the increase of the capital stock would have been impossible.

Information was filed in the probate court of Newton county, the other day, alleging the insanity of Mrs. Marie Cray, and on trial she was committed to the asylum at Nevada. Mrs. Cray is possessed of considerable financial means. She went to Neosho from Southwest City some three months ago, and since that time has been making life unbearable, it is said, for a leading attorney, against whom she threatened to bring suit for \$300,000 for breach of promise.

Want to Be Close to Zion. The recent convention of Mormons at Independence was very successful. The statement in the convention that the time is at hand for the "Gathering of the Saints" in Zion (Independence) is bearing fruit. Many Mormons are at town inquiring about houses and farms. They expect all the "Saints of the world" to gather there, and there await the coming of Christ, which they say is near at hand.

Supported by Tax-Payers. During the past year there were 2,733 patients admitted to the female hospital in St. Louis. There were 346 births at the institution during the year. The expenses averaged \$232.61 per patient.

St. Louis poorhouse, the majority being males. In the insane department there are about 775, of whom the greater number are females.

Missouri University Glee Club. The students of the Missouri state university have organized a glee club, composed of thirty members, which will soon start on an extensive tour through Missouri and the adjoining states.

War on Tobacco Chewers. One of the most prominent street railway presidents in St. Louis has declared war on tobacco chewers. He calls them hogs, and says they can not expectorate and ride in his cars.

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College President Chosen. Rev. George W. Ayres, recently of Washington college, Tennessee, has been chosen president of the Presbyterian college located at Independence.

Miner's Head Blown Off. D. O. Lapoint, a miner, was killed in the Kohinor mine, Joplin. A charge of dynamite exploded while he was stooping over it and blew his head off.

Harried on a Train. Lafayette Ligon, of Liberty, and Miss Kate Horenecker, of Smithville, were married on a railway train. There were objections to the match.

Elected to the Legislature. Poy Woodside, democrat, was elected to the legislature in Oregon county by 7 votes over Alf Harris, populist, but succeeded by J. B. Odece, democrat.

By Shooting. Odie Simpson, aged 20, son of G. W. Simpson, fatally shot himself at Brunswick. The recent death of his mother was the cause.

Sedalia High School. The new high school building at Sedalia will be three stories high, 90 by 110 feet, will accommodate 600 pupils and cost \$30,000.

JAPANESE HUMANITY.

The Result of Their Latest-Acquired Civilization. A Godsend to Chinese Prisoners. Five Thousand of Whom Would Have Been Beheaded Upon Being Released Had They Not Been Protected by Treaty Stipulations.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The stipulation in the treaty of peace between China and Japan that the Chinese who have been captured by the Japanese and others who sold supplies to the Japanese troops in their march through Manchuria and Shantung shall not be punished by the Chinese authorities, was inspired by humane considerations. It is the custom of China to behead such of her soldiers as fall into the hands of the enemy and are afterwards returned to their country. During several naval and land engagements, upwards of 5,000 Chinese troops were captured by the Japanese, and it is to preserve their lives that the foregoing provision was inserted in the treaty. The same considerations inspired the other provision relative to the purchase of supplies from Chinese subjects.

The curious fact develops in this connection that China has not a single prisoner of war in her hands belonging to Japan.

The United Press dispatch which contained the exact announcement that the indemnity to 200,000,000 taels will be paid in seven yearly installments differs from official reports previously received, which limited the payments to five instead of seven installments. It is believed, however, that the statement contained in the United Press dispatch is correct. While no definite information has been received regarding the matter, it is understood that the indemnity will take the form of a bond issue on the part of China, the bonds to be retired during a period of seven years, and to bear interest at 5 per cent. per annum. The presumption is still very strong that the indemnity will be paid in silver.

Until the beginning of the war between China and Japan each country had a consular jurisdiction over its subjects in the other country. It would now appear that Japan will no longer grant this privilege to China, although stipulating for a continuance of this right for herself. The explanation given for this exception is that Japan is now a civilized country with a code of laws based on the highest principles of justice and equity and that she can be safely trusted, therefore, to deal fairly with the Chinese subjects living within her borders. China, on the other hand, it is asserted, still a barbarous country and foreigners residing there must receive the protection of their own country, since little if any will be afforded to them by the local authorities.

FOUND HIM GUILTY.

The Coroner's Jury in the Case of Minnie Williams Held Yesterday that the Murder—The Evidence Against Him, Though Circumstantial, Clear and Convincing—That in the Case of Miss Lamont Still More So.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—The coroner's jury yesterday charged Theodore Durant with the murder of Minnie Williams, one of the young girls who was recently killed in Emanuel Baptist church.

Durant, who yesterday in a cheerful and even flippant frame of mind. He laughed and cracked jokes with the jury, and to whom he has heretofore shown intense reserve, and when Capt. Douglass entered the prison for the purpose of escorting the prisoner to the inquest, Durant greeted the captain pleasantly and smiled at the handcuffs were snapped upon his wrists.

When the inquest was resumed Dr. Vogel and Elmer Wolfe were called, but their testimony developed nothing new. Wolfe accounted satisfactorily for his movements on the night of the murder.

Miss Frances Willis testified as to seeing Durant on a train coming back from Alameda on Monday, the 8th inst., thus corroborating the statement of Morgan, at whose house the girl was living. Durant has denied that he was in Alameda on the date mentioned. Miss Willis further testified that Durant boarded the train at Park station, which is about a block from the Morgan residence.

The last witness was Dr. J. S. Barrett, the autopsy physician, who gave testimony as to the cause of death. In the witness' opinion the wound in the heart had been made after death, as was the deep breast wound. Other wounds had been made before death. Examination had also shown that outrage had preceded the murder. At the conclusion of Dr. Barrett's testimony the jury retired.

After being out half an hour the jury returned a verdict finding that Miss Williams "came to her death from hemorrhage due to lacerated wounds and asphyxia due to strangulation," and "we further find from evidence obtained that the crime was committed by one Theodore Durant, and we find him guilty thereof."

Chief Crowley said: "The evidence against Durant is clear and convincing, and I am fully satisfied of his guilt. We shall proceed beyond a shadow of a doubt that he met and murdered Miss Williams, and he so elaborately arranged that the evidence in the case of Blanche Lamont is even stronger than in the former case."

Coroner Hawkins has decided to hold the inquest in the case of Miss Lamont on Monday morning next.

PATRIOTS' DAY

Generally Observed in Boston and Other Massachusetts Cities.

BOSTON, April 20.—Patriots' day, the anniversary of the battle of Lexington, was generally observed yesterday, although not in so elaborate a manner as it was last year, when the holiday was legally commemorated for the first time. The day was ushered in by the ringing of bells and the booming of cannon and at 11 o'clock the ride of Paul Revere was commemorated by exercises in Christ church.

HIMSELF THE ROBBER.

Confession of Charles Cole, the Stage Driver.

DUN'S TRADE REVIEW.

Business Growing in All Speculative Departments—Result of Skillful Manipulations—Petroleum, Cotton and Beef Stealing Mayward with No Real Reason for the Advance—Other Markets—The Week's Failures.

NEW YORK, April 20.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade, issued today, says:

In every speculative department business is growing, but this is the least satisfactory of the situation. Cotton and wheat climb above the export prices, so that the marketing of products abroad must be checked, and money is absorbed which ought to be employed in productive industry and in distribution of products to consumers. Everybody knows that oil has not risen 200 per cent. because it is intrinsically more valuable or is actually worth more than it was two or three weeks ago, but the expansive and uplifting force has unfortunately taken to speculation rather than to production, and so we have higher prices in all speculative markets without a larger demand for consumption. Stories of combinations between the Standard Oil Co. and Russia as to partition of the oil-consuming territory in by no means the cause of the advance of petroleum. There is no evidence that cotton is in larger demand than it was when the price was a cent or so lower, but prices have been so low for months that upward movement was easier without much reason, though stocks here and abroad are 300,000 bales larger than they were at the same date after the greatest crop ever produced heretofore, and spinners here and abroad have taken about 1,600,000 bales more than they have consumed. Wheat has been much firmer; western receipts are not large, and it would be strange if they were, with prices low, but advancing. Exports continue to indicate that the European demand will not be particularly heavy this season.

Outside of speculative markets, the most important feature of the rise in the price of beef, but which is largely due to the control of sources of supply by a few strong corporations. There ought to be, but apparently is not, sufficient power in the hands of the government to meet any such conspiracy against the public, and the proposal of Secretary of the Interior to admit Mexican cattle and cattle from Canada on easy terms for the benefit of consumers, is heartily commended, though it is not likely to have much influence. The actual decrease in receipts of cattle at the four chief western markets has been 300,000 head during the first quarter of 1895, and the quantity killed has been only 80,000 head less than last year, about 10 per cent., but facts have little to do with process in this case, as in the case of oil.

Boots and shoes are in larger demand, although the jobber has to pay ten cents or more above the price paid two months ago, and there are more orders than the advance at first demanded. Except from the west, there are indications of a larger consuming demand, but on the whole the market is perceptibly narrower by the advance which higher prices for leather have occasioned.

In iron and steel the situation is rather disappointing, although the output continues large, as the demand for finished products does not seem to increase. Structural forms are in large demand, but sales of wire are about 30 per cent. less than last year, and in other branches there is no perceptible gain. It is still an open question whether the consumption will support the manufacture at the present rate, which is at least one-eighth below the present maximum.

Some larger textile mills have advanced wages at Fall River about 10 per cent. restoring the rates paid before the reduction in September, 1893. Labor troubles are comparatively less serious this week, and the tendency is toward larger returns for labor, which will increase the consuming power for other products. Cotton mills are encouraged by improving prices and are fairly busy.

Sales of wool at the three chief eastern markets have been 18,334,300 pounds for three weeks of April, against 14,602,800 last year; which indicates that the production of goods is at present larger than it has been at any other time in the last three years, and while foreign competition is seriously felt in some branches the manufacturers are making a vigorous effort to retain the home market even in lines which at one time they expected to abandon.

The volume of business represented by exchanges of the principal clearinghouses is only 3.3 per cent. larger than last year, for the week, and 24.5 per cent. less than in 1893, about half the decrease being due to the lower range of prices.

The money market has been firm. Foreign trade shows a heavy balance due abroad, and gold would undoubtedly go out in large amount but for the negotiation of bonds by the syndicate. The government deficit for the month thus far is over \$10,000,000, and no reason appears to expect that it will much diminish.

Failures for the first 17 days of April amounted to \$3,413,705, of which \$1,424,328 were from manufacturing and \$1,989,377 of trading concerns.

Failures for the week were 241 in the United States, against 210 last year, and 34 in Canada, against 45 last year.

A GERMAN OPINION

Of the Sudden and Unprecedented Rise in Oil.

BERLIN, April 20.—The Handel Zeitung says in a leader on the increased price of oil: Mr. Rockefeller, the American oil magnate, is too smart a business man and speculator to leave room for the assumption that he was surprised by the present developments. The rapidity with which the movement came upon the market forces us to the conclusion that there was an understanding among the interested parties including the Rothschilds.

A New Route for Shipment of Hawaiian Sugar to New York.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—A report received at the department of state from Consul-General Ellis Mills, at Honolulu, says that the Western Sugar Refining Co., through its agents there, is purchasing and shipping large quantities of sugar direct to New York. This new deal, he estimates, will divert at least 50,000 tons of sugar from the port of San Francisco during the present season, and will cause considerable loss to the coal and lumber-laden vessels which go to Honolulu and get a cargo of sugar for San Francisco.

THE TAX ON INCOMES.

It Already Amounts to Nearly Fifteen Millions Differing Surprises From the West—East, Which Opponents of the Tax Said Would Pay Twenty-Five Per Cent. of the Tax—About Twenty-Five Per Cent. on Returns.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Widespread interest exists as to the facts shown by the income tax returns received up to this time at the treasury department. So much of an economic interest will be had when these returns are fully in, and they will be of so much value as indicators of the material condition of the whole country, that their publication will naturally be impatiently looked for. So far, however, only meager information has been received and only the most general statements can be made from the voluntary assessments now in.

Commissioner Miller announces that from the figures on hand he is able to estimate that the returns now in will bring in a collected tax of \$14,365,000. And the commissioner further states this amount is continually rising in all amended reports received from collectors.

There are various estimates as to the amount which will be added to this when the income tax collector has made his rounds and all of the delinquents have been enrolled to pay not only the usual 2 per cent. tax, but the penalty of 50 per cent. addition.

In making public this aggregate amount the commissioner refuses to segregate the assessments into their respective states, or to give the advances several reasons for this. In the first place, the returns which he has so far received from the collectors are necessarily of hurried making, and in many instances incomplete upon their face. Not only would the publication of these amounts, in an incorrect, confused and untrustworthy publication, be unjust to many states making a poor showing. In fact, the returns now in show such marked divisions in prosperity throughout the country that it is doubtful if the commissioner will, even in his annual report, make a segregated statement in view of the sectional feeling which would result.

Sectionally, what is known as the old south makes the most pitiful returns. From Maryland to Louisiana the work of the income-tax collector will be very light. And the undoubted improvement which has been going on in this southeastern section for the past fifteen years will have to continue for some years longer before it can make a respectable appearance, in line with the opulent northeast and the triumphant west. Yes, triumphant west. For it is from there that the surprises of the income tax returns come.

All during the arguments which for the past two years have been turning the income tax into a problem up and down, and over the statement has been made and generally agreed to that the east would pay the tax. This is not so.

The east, it is generally known, will not pay even half of the tax. It will hardly pay a third, unless you include in your estimate all of Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia. The growing west, the prosperous northwest, the bustling, brawny west, is no pauper and is fast taking to itself the riches of the country along with its sunset moving center of population. Senator Hill, the most careful and dependable opponent of the tax, and those who took his estimates, used to declare that New